Claims

[c1] A method of communicating between an automation device and a web browser comprising of the steps of: sending a request message from said web browser to a process that encapsulates said request message in a MODBUS type protocol;

transmitting said request message to said automation device;

responding to said request message by the automation device with a reply message using the MODBUS type protocol;

transmitting said reply message to the process; reformatting said reply message such that the message is understandable by said web browser; sending the reformatted reply message to the web browser.

- [c2] The method of claim 1 whereby the MODBUS type protocol is the MODBUS/TCP protocol.
- [c3] The method of claim 1 whereby the MODBUS type protocol is the serial MODBUS protocol.
- [c4] The method of claim 1 whereby the request message

- uses HTTP and HTML.
- [c5] The method of claim 1 whereby the request message uses HTTP and XML.
- [06] The method of claim 1 whereby the request message uses HTTP and XHTML.
- [c7] The method of claim 1 whereby the request message uses HTTP and SGML.
- [08] A method of communicating between an automation device and a personal computer comprising of the steps of:
 - sending an HTTP request message from said web browser to a process that encapsulates said HTTP request message in a MODBUS type protocol;
 - transmitting said request message to said automation device;
 - responding to said request message by the automation device with a reply message using the MODBUS type protocol;
 - transmitting said reply message to the process; reformatting said reply message such that the message is encoded in HTTP;
 - sending the reformatted reply message to the personal computer.

- [c9] The method of claim 8 wherein the MODBUS type protocol is the MODBUS/TCP protocol.
- [c10] The method of claim 8 wherein the MODBUS type protocol is the serial MODBUS protocol.
- [c11] The method of claim 8 wherein the HTTP request mes-sage uses HTML.
- [c12] The method of claim 8 wherein the HTTP request mes-sage uses XML.
- [c13] The method of claim 8 wherein the HTTP request mes-sage uses XHTML.
- [c14] The method of claim 8 wherein the HTTP request mes-sage uses SGML.